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**1989/06/06**

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INFO CM-04 P-01 RA-01 EAP-05 /011 AI BT  
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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC RIACI IMMEDIATE 0100  
INFO AMCONSUL BONG BONG IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL SHENTANG IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH

SECRET BEIJING 15546

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR LILLEY

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PREL, US, CM  
SUBJECT: TFCN01: SECRETARY'S REQUEST FOR  
INFORMATION ON CRISIS IN CHINA

REF: AMBASSADOR/SECRETARY JUNE 6 TELCON

1. (S) SUMMARY:

THERE IS A SANITARY  
GORDON AROUND THE CENTER OF BEIJING WITH MAJOR  
INTERSECTIONS ON THE SECOND RING ROAD CONTROLLED BY  
ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND TANKS. WE CANNOT  
CONFIRM THE SITUATION AT TIANANMEN SQUARE OR WHETHER  
THERE IS FIGHTING BETWEEN GROUP ARMIES. ALTHOUGH  
THERE ARE RELIABLE REPORTS OF BUILDING TENSION IN  
THE MILITARY. FIGURES SOURCED TO THE CHINESE RED  
CROSS STATE THAT 2,600 HAVE DIED AFTER BEING  
HOSPITALIZED; THE MOST COMMON CREDIBLE FIGURE IS A  
MINIMUM OF 10,000 DEAD AND WOUNDED. CIVILIAN  
GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY HAS VIRTUALLY COME TO A  
STANDSTILL

WE ESTIMATE THERE ARE  
APPROXIMATELY 8,000 AMERICAN CITIZENS (1,400 IN  
BEIJING) AND 428 US EMBASSY AND CONSULATE PERSONNEL  
AND DEPENDENTS IN CHINA. (END SUMMARY)

2. (S) CURRENT MILITARY SITUATION (WAO ASSESSMENT):

THE PLA GENERAL STAFF DEPARTMENT IS  
STILL FUNCTIONING AND WE BELIEVE THAT THE DIRECTORS  
OF THE THREE STAFF DEPARTMENTS (GLD, GSD, AND GPD)  
ARE LOYAL TO YANG. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF A  
SPLIT BETWEEN DEFENSE MINISTER QIN JIWEI AND YANG.  
THERE ARE ALSO REPORTS SOME MILITARY REGION  
COMMANDERS HAVE REFUSED TO COME TO BEIJING TO MEET  
WITH THE CENTRAL COMMAND.

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THERE IS A SANITARY GORDON AROUND THE CENTER OF  
BEIJING FOR ABOUT TWO KILOMETERS AROUND TIANANMEN  
SQUARE. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THE SHOOTING AT THE SQUARE  
IS NOT NOW INDISCRIMINATE, BUT IT STILL CONTINUES.  
INSIDE THE SECOND RING ROAD THE MILITARY IS IN FIRM  
CONTROL, AND NEIGHBORHOODS IN THIS ZONE APPEAR  
CALM. AT MAJOR INTERSECTIONS ON THE SECOND RING  
ROAD, ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND TANKS ARE BEING  
USED TO CONTROL ACCESS TO THE CENTER OF TOWN. MOST  
OTHER MAJOR INTERSECTIONS USED BY THE ARMY TO ENTER  
TOWN NOW HAVE ROADBLOCKS OUTSIDE THE THIRD RING ROAD  
AND ARE MANNED BY CIVILIANS WITH SUCH THINGS AS  
MOLOTOV COCKTAILS READY TO FIGHT. RULES OF  
ENGAGEMENT ARE CLEAR IN THE PERIPHERAL ZONES, AND  
THE ARMY IS ATTEMPTING TO AVOID THE USE OF DEADLY  
FORCE IF POSSIBLE.

WE CANNOT CONFIRM THE SITUATION IN THE CENTER OF THE  
TIANANMEN AREA. BUT THIS MORNING ALL APPEARED CALM  
THERE WITH SOME TROOPS MOVED TO INSIDE THE FORBIDDEN  
CITY. THERE IS INFORMATION THAT THE 27TH ARMY IS  
BEING MORE BRUTAL THAN OTHERS. THIS IS A COMMON  
THREAD IN STORIES CIRCULATING IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND  
CHINESE COMMUNITIES. AS FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE,  
THE 30TH ARMY, THE 63RD, AND THE 1ST TANK DIVISION  
ALSO ATTACKED AND BRUTAL FORCE WAS INVOLVED. WE DO  
NOT YET HAVE FIRM EVIDENCE THERE WILL BE FIGHTING  
BETWEEN GROUP ARMIES OF THE PLA, BUT THERE ARE  
PERSISTENT REPORTS THAT SUCH FIGHTING HAS OCCURED  
BETWEEN SMALLER UNITS. NO ONE HAS YET EYEWITNESSED  
THIS. DESPITE PERSISTENT STORIES OF CARNAGE OR  
POSSIBLE CARNAGE IN THE UNIVERSITIES AREA, NONE HAS  
OCCURRED SO FAR ACCORDING TO OUR EYEWITNESSES.

3. (S) ESTIMATE OF CASUALTIES:

WE CANNOT PIN DOWN AN ACCURATE RANGE FOR NUMBERS OF  
DEAD AND WOUNDED. HOSPITALS HAVE NOT BEEN  
FORTNCOMING WITH INFORMATION. THE CHINESE RED CROSS  
FIGURE OF 2600 HAVING DIED AFTER BEING HOSPITALIZED  
IS THE HARDEST FIGURE WE HAVE THUS FAR. GIVEN THE  
LEVEL OF BRUTALITY THAT WE KNOW OCCURRED, WE BELIEVE  
THAT THE MEDIA REPORTS OF MANY THOUSANDS INJURED ARE  
CREDIBLE. THE MOST COMMON CREDIBLE FIGURE WE HAVE  
HEARD IS A MINIMUM OF 10,000 DEAD AND WOUNDED.

4.

5. (S) MEETINGS WITH CHINESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS:

United States Department of State  
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review  
Review Authority: MILLER, ROBERT  
Date: 01/23/96  
Case ID: 9205307

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CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY HAS COME TO A VIRTUAL  
STANDSTILL. ON JUNE 6 THE AOCN WILL MEET WITH THE  
NEW DIRECTOR OF THE NSA AMERICAS DEPARTMENT AND AN  
OFFICIAL FROM PROTOCOL (RESPONSIBLE FOR EVACUATION  
FLIGHT CLEARANCES). ON JUNE 5, THE STATE EDUCATION  
COMMISSION AND THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY  
CANCELLED SCHEDULED MEETINGS WITH US. EMBASSY WENT  
TO A CITY POLICE STATION THE EVENING OF JUNE 4, AND  
FOUND ALL THE DOORS AND GATES LOCKED, EXTERIOR  
LIGHTS OFF, AND NO POLICE OFFICERS WILLING TO GO OUT  
ON THE STREETS. I HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS BY TELEPHONE, BUT  
OVERALL OUR MOST COMMON INTERLOCUTORS HAVE BEEN DUTY  
OFFICERS AND MIDDLE LEVEL OFFICIALS. THE GOVERNMENT

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6. (C) OTHER EMBASSY PLANS REGARDING EVACUATION:  
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7. (C) USG EMPLOYE

EMPLOYEES

DEPENDENTS

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BEIJING 111 105

CHENGDU 6 8

GUANGZHOU 27 36

SHANGHAI 16 21

SHENYANG 10 8

SUB-TOTALS 170 258

GRAND TOTAL 428 USG EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS

**2. AMERICAN CITIZENS IN CHINA:**

WHAT FOLLOWS IS AVAILABLE INFORMATION ABOUT TOTAL NUMBERS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO MAY BE IN CHINA. THIS INFORMATION IS BROKEN DOWN BY DISTRICT AND IS BASED ON MOST RECENT F-77 REPORT.

**(1) BEIJING CONSULAR DISTRICT**

**-- BEIJING CITY**

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 1811  
OTHERS WHO HAVE CONTACTED EMBASSY 400

BEIJING GENERALLY WOULD HAVE 2000 TOURISTS AT ANY ONE TIME, HOWEVER, AT THE MOMENT WE BELIEVE THERE ARE PROBABLY NO MORE THAN 400 TO 600 TOURISTS, MANY OF WHOM HAVE CONTACTED THE EMBASSY ALREADY AND PROVIDED THEIR WHEREABOUTS.)

**-- DISTRICT OUTSIDE OF BEIJING**

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 300  
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 400

**(2) SHANGHAI CONSULAR DISTRICT**

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 600  
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 2400

**(3) SHENYANG CONSULAR DISTRICT**

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 250  
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 250

**(4) CHENGDU CONSULAR DISTRICT**

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 191  
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 1000

**(5) GUANGZHOU CONSULAR DISTRICT**

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 1020  
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 600

EMBASSY THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL FIGURES HAVE NOT CHANGED SINCE SUBMISSION OF 1989 F-77, WHICH DEPARTMENT HAS IN ITS FILES.

ONE ESTIMATE OF THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CITIZENS NOW IN BEIJING IS APPROXIMATELY 1,500. THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ESTIMATED 75 PERCENT OF THEIR AMERICAN DEPENDENTS HAVE ALREADY LEFT CHINA. IBM, BECHTEL, AND WTC HAVE ORDERED THEIR EXPAT STAFFS TO LEAVE CHINA. TWO-THIRDS TO THREE-FOURTHS OF OUR BUSINESSMEN IN BEIJING WILL BE GONE BY THE END OF

THIS WEEK.

**3. REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT:**

SHANGHAI REPORTED AN INITIAL POSITIVE REACTION AMONG STUDENTS. THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY WAS REASSURED BY THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON CONTINUITY IN OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

TILLEY

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